

## REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the very thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 1 and 5-6 are now present in this application. Claim 1 is independent. By this amendment, claim has been amended and claims 2-4 and 7-13 are canceled. No new matter is involved.

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

### Priority Under 35 U.S.C. § 119

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging Applicants' claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119, and receipt of the certified priority document.

### Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner has required new drawings that are larger for purposes of clarity. Applicants have prepared revised drawings in compliance with this requirement and are enclosing them with this Amendment.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

*Specification Amendment*

Applicants are amending the main body of the Specification to correct another paragraph on page 14 that incorrectly labels the tin-copper alloy layer with number 83.

*Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second paragraph*

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph as being indefinite because it is not clear to the Examiner how “pore density” relates to “surface area.” Applicants traverse this rejection as moot because claim 4 is canceled.

*Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102*

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9 and 13 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being clearly anticipated by JP 2002-289653 to Hisanori. This rejection is traversed as moot with respect to claims 2, 9 and 13, that have been canceled.

With respect to claim 1, claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of original claim 3. With respect to claims 5 and 6, these two claims depend from amended claim 1, that contains the subject matter of original claim 3, that the Office Action indicates is allowable.

Because of this, claims 1, 5 and 6 are not anticipated by Hisanori, but are allowable for the same reason that the subject matter in original claim 3, and now in amended claim 1, is allowable.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 4, 7-8 and 10-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hisanori. This rejection is respectfully traversed as moot because claims 4, 7-8 and 10-12 have been canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner states that claim 3 would be allowable if it is incorporated into an independent claim.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the early indication of allowable subject matter in this application, and has incorporated the subject matter of claims 2 and 3 into independent claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1, as amended, is allowable.

*Additional Cited References*

Because the remaining reference cited by the Examiner has not been utilized to reject the claims, but has merely been cited to show the state of the art, no comment need be made with respect thereto.

*Conclusion*

All of the stated grounds of restriction and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn, and claims 1 and 5-6 be allowed. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

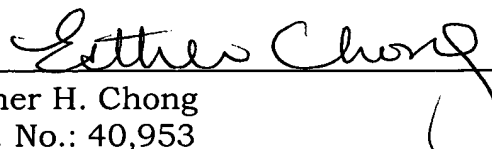
If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone Robert J. Webster, Registration No. 47,472, at (703) 205-8000, in the Washington, D.C. area.


Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:   
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*EHC/RJW/mmi/cdr* 

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Attachments: Two Replacement Drawing Sheets